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SPECIAL REGULATIONS
No. 600-147-1

*SR 600-147-1
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 25 January 1951

PERSONNEL

ASSIGNMENT IN ARMY ATTACHÉ SYSTEM

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1. General.—a. The United States Army Attaché System is essential to the Army intelligence program. The principal functions of Army attachés are the collection of information desired by the Department of the Army, the maintenance of good relations between the United States Army and the Army officials of the country to which accredited, and the furtherance of the interests of the Department of the Army in the country concerned.

b. The Department of the Army contemplates a periodic announcement of forecast vacancies in the Army Attaché System. The diplomatic and national languages spoken in the respective countries will be indicated. Language qualifications are outlined in paragraph 4.

c. Normally, only officers who desire and volunteer for Army attaché duty will be considered. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified through channels. Should the number of volunteer officers fail to meet existing requirements, The Adjutant General will be requested to nominate officers to fill specific vacancies and if selected these officers will be detailed to duty in the Army Attaché System.

d. Applicants who are selected for assignment in the Army Attaché System under these regulations will receive necessary language training, if any, in Washington, D. C., or Monterey, California, plus a 17-weeks' intelligence and administrative indoctrination and schooling in Washington, D. C.

e. Subject to the availability of quarters, dependents may accompany officers.

2. Qualifications.—a. Officers.—Due to the specialized functions and responsibilities of Army attaché personnel, only those possessing certain well-defined qualifications will be assigned to such duty. In general, the qualifications required of military personnel who desire

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to be considered for assignment within the Army Attaché System are as follows:

(1) *General requirements.*

- (a) Must be available for reassignment under the provisions of current Department of the Army directives.
- (b) Must possess those personal qualities which will enable him to associate on equal and congenial terms with the other members of the diplomatic mission to which he is assigned.
- (c) Need not be married, but if he is, it is expected that normally his wife will proceed overseas and be stationed with him. The private life of the officer must be free from current or impending marital difficulties and from abnormal family ties and business implications that might serve to divert his attention from his military duties. All his accompanying family members must be physically qualified to live in the country of assignment. They also must possess suitable qualifications as regards dignity, personality, education, character, and loyalty to the United States.
- (d) Officer and his wife must be citizens of the United States by birth, and free of any family, commercial, or other influencing relationships within the country of assignment. Extensive foreign education, long residence abroad, or a connection with foreign holdings or businesses may be considered as being disqualifying factors.

(2) *Military requirements.*

- (a) *Physical.*—General service classification and indicated physical adaptability for residence in the country of assignment.
- (b) *Appearance.*—Good military appearance and bearing, without embarrassing physical handicaps.
- (c) *Category* (for nonregular officers).—Upon reporting to Washington, D. C., for orientation and instruction, the officer must sign a statement to the effect that he is willing to remain on duty as a category III officer, such category to run for 3 years from the last day of the month following the date of his arrival at assigned duty station.
- (d) *Age.*—Officers of an age indicating that they probably will have at least 3 years of active service remaining after completion of tour of duty in an Army attaché office will receive preference in consideration for such assignment over officers of an age indicating otherwise.

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(e) *Education*.—Degree of bachelor, or higher, from an accredited college or university is required. Officers in grades higher than lieutenant colonel must have graduated from the Command and General Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, or the National War College, or possess constructive credit for such graduation.

(f) *Background*.—Must possess the military background and experience necessary to perform his assigned duties. Also, unless accepted for a recognized specialty, must possess a well-balanced command and staff career record commensurate with his grade.

b. *Warrant officers and enlisted personnel*.

(1) Warrant officers and enlisted personnel recommended for assignment in the Army Attaché System must possess superior qualifications for such duty. They must have a demonstrated record of initiative, industry, maturity, intelligence, discretion, and sobriety, so as to give positive assurance that they will perform their work efficiently and be a credit to the United States while on duty at their assigned foreign stations. They must also possess a superior bearing and appearance, and be native born citizens of the United States, of unquestioned loyalty. If married, the provisions of a(1)(c) above apply fully to their families. Normally enlisted personnel in grades of master sergeant and sergeant first class only will be accepted, and must be over 25 years of age.

(2) Warrant officers and enlisted men should apply listing their preferences for countries and geographical area.

3. *Screening*.—The following individuals will effect the screening of all applications received in their respective headquarters to insure that no application is forwarded to The Adjutant General if the applicant definitely does not meet the requirements specified in paragraph 2. Indorsements should indicate applicant's date of availability for reassignment.

a. *Chief, Army Field Forces*.

b. *Commanding generals of—*

- (1) Continental armies.
- (2) Military District of Washington.
- (3) Administrative School Center.
- (4) Armored Center.
- (5) Engineer Center.
- (6) Artillery Center.

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- (7) Army General School Center.
- (8) Infantry Center.
- (9) Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missiles Center.

c. Commandants of—

- (1) Command and General Staff College.
- (2) Armed Forces Staff College.
- (3) National War College.
- (4) Artillery School, Seacoast Branch.

d. Superintendent, United States Military Academy.

4. Languages.—Although a fluency in the diplomatic or national language is highly desirable, it is *not* mandatory. Normally, officers selected for assignment in the Army Attaché System who do not possess the desired proficiency in the diplomatic or national language of the country for which they are selected will be sent to school to attain a degree of proficiency deemed essential. The length of the language training will vary from 6 months to 1 year, depending upon the language and the applicant's present proficiency. Lack of fluency in the prescribed diplomatic or national language should not preclude an officer from volunteering for this type of assignment, and it is not intended that an officer's application should be returned to him by an intermediate headquarters solely because he lacks this linguistic fluency.

5. Allowances.—A system of allowances and per diem to cover those expenses above normal expenditures has been set up based on the rate of exchange and cost of living in each country. These allowances are intended to assist the attaché personnel in defraying additional expenses necessitated by such an assignment.

6. Applications.—*a.* In order to fill these important vacancies, all personnel who are interested in this type of assignment, and who meet the prescribed requirements listed in paragraph 2, will make application at the earliest practicable date.

b. Applications should include listing of any special abilities that the individual feels will give a better picture of his qualifications, and must be accompanied by a completed Personal History Statement (DA AGO Form 643A), in quadruplicate, and a completed National Defense Program Fingerprint Card (obtainable through normal publications supply channels). Applicants may apply for as many positions as they may desire, but their order of preference should be indicated.

c. Enlisted men's applications must be accompanied by a certified true copy of Soldier's Qualification Card (DA AGO Form 20), prepared in accordance with paragraph 38, SR 615-25-1, in addition to

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Personal History Statement, in quadruplicate, and a completed National Defense Program Fingerprint Card.

d. Officer applications will be forwarded through channels to The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C., Attention: AGG-SA. In order to be considered for a specific vacancy, application should reach The Adjutant General at the earliest practicable date.

e. Warrant officer and enlisted applications will be forwarded through channels to The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C., Attention: G-2—Personnel Branch.

*AG 210.681 (27 Dec 50)]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS

Chief of Staff, United States Army

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